MDA #117 VOLUME 28 No. 51 December 19, 2003 PUB. Weekly

MARKET ANALYSIS -December 18, 2003

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Corn nearby futures finished up last week 4 cents above the March contract, which keeps some traders feeling optimistic despite last weeks USDA report being fairly neutral. Corn trading has been trading in a very narrow range all week because we have had little fundamental news on which to trade and traders are looking to the neighboring pits to give corn prices some direction. However, despite a lack of news many traders still believe that demand remains strong. Prices in China have started to rise (apparently due to rising rail costs there) so that could bolster the export market. Most traders are expecting a sideways market in the next week or two (because of the holidays). Soybean trade finished last week 16 cents higher on the January contract. The USDA did not change the carryover estimate in its report last week, which is most surprising. Why? We have solid demand going into 2004 and the USDA is obviously counting on a massive South American crop or a slow down in U.S. usage. One more month should give us an idea on the USDA's projection. In the middle of the week the markets started to react to the Chinese (soybean) buying envoy – basically sending the market slightly higher. Most traders are expecting a purchase of about 500 thousand tons but some are hopeful of a buy close to 1.5 million. How much of this expectation is already priced into the market remains to be seen. In South American news – Brazil's planting is, apparently, 97% complete. 47% of that is apparently dry. Wheat spoiled the party last week with prices generally down across all exchanges despite the fact there were no surprises in the USDA report. Concerns over competitive pressures in the wheat business have been weighing on the market all week (despite a weak dollar). Egypt purchased 60 thousand tons of US Wheat midweek – but that same day, they purchased twice that amount from Australia at a higher price! Stiff competition from down under and Canada will not go away. The western U.S. plains will be mostly warm and dry throughout the Holiday season. Happy Holidays to you all!!

BASIS TABLE

LOCATION	CORN	BASIS	SOYBEA	N BASIS	WHEAT BASIS		
	CASH(Dec03)	NEW(Dec03)	CASH(Jan04)	NEW(Nov04)	CASH(Dec03)	NEW(Jul04)	
Western MD	+27	N/A	-48	N/A	-56	N/A	
Central MD	+13	N/A	-38	N/A	-10	-15	
Southern MD	+7	-1	-25	-24	N/A	-30	
Upper E. S	+17	+4	-25	-24	N/A	-27	
Lower E. S	+27	+11	-21	-12	N/A	-27	

WEEKLY CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

The Weekly Crop Weather Summary will resume in April 2004

Grade and Commodity		#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Sovbeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley		
Date	12	/11	12/17	12/11	12/17	12/11	12/17	12/11	12/17	
Western Md	2	.78	2.82	7.32	7.21	3.40	3.25	2.45	2.45	
Central MD	2	.67	2.68	7.38	7.31	3.74	3.71	2.50	2.50	
Southern MD	2	.60	2.62	7.55	7.44					
Upper E. Shore	2.70		2.72	7.50	7.44					
Lower E. Shore	2	.80	2.82	7.58	7.48	3.38		1.40		
Soybean Meal			Lower Eastern Shore			Dealer's Average Cash Quotes (\$/ton)				
Date		12/11		12/17 Date		10/1		1 12/17		
48% Soybean Meal		267	.00	260.00	44% Sovbe	% Sovbean Meal		00	248.00	
FORWARD CON	TRACT PR	ICE-RI	EGIONAL (S	S/bu) For Harv	est delivery D	ealer's Avg	Quote			
Grade and Commodity		#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley		
Date		/11	12/17	12/11	12/17	12/11	12/17	12/11	12/17	
Western Md										
Central MD						3.50	3.50			
Southern MD		49	2.49	5.92	5.92	3.40	3.35	1.45	1.45	
Upper E Shore		.54	2.54	5.92	5.92	3.43	3.38	1.55	1.55	
1 1	1 2	.61	2.61	6.02	6.04	3.42	3.38	1.51	1.55	
Upper E Shore Lower E Shore	Z				2002					
1.1		Board o	of Trade (cer	its/bu) -Dec 17,	, 2003			Soybean Meal 1		
Lower E Shore	S - Chicago	Board o	of Trade (cer Soyb	eans	, 2003	Wheat		Soybear	n Meai	
Lower E Shore GRAIN FUTURE Corn Mar	S - Chicago	Board o	Soyb		Mar	Wheat 386	.00	Soybean Jan	229.90	
Lower E Shore GRAIN FUTURE Corn Mar	S - Chicago		Soyb	768.50 773.25						
Lower E Shore GRAIN FUTURE Corn Mar May Jul	S - Chicago 251.50 254.25 255.75	Jan	Soyb	768.50 773.25 761.75	Mar May Jul	386 384 364	.75 .75	Jan Mar May	229.90 231.20 227.60	
Lower E Shore GRAIN FUTURE	S - Chicago 251.50 254.25	Jan Ma	Soyb	768.50 773.25	Mar May	386 384	.75 .75 .00	Jan Mar	229.90 231.20	

HAY AND STRA	W (\$/cwt)							
New Holland, PA	<u> </u>	c 15 2003 -	61 Loads					
Alfalfa	- ψ/τοπ - Βτ	Mixe			Timothy	Orcha	rdgrass	Straw
125.00-185.0	0	90.00-21		8	5.00-210.00		200.00	165.00-205.00
Westminster, MD					210.00	02.00		100.00 200.00
Alfalfa		Alfalfa Mixed		Гimo	thy Timotl	ny Mixed	Grass	Straw
3.30-3.90		1.20-5.00		.30-4		-3.50	1.10-3.60	1.40-3.50
Southern, MD - F	Regional Far	mers' Mark	et - \$/bale -		Next Sale Dec 20,	2003		
POULTRY (Grad	le A) - Week	Ending De	ec 20, 2003 - N	egot	iated Price, (\$/cv	vt)		
•	•	Current W			k Ago		h Ago	Year Ago
NY Wtd Avg. (Fry	ers)	61.36			.26		.83	49.73
12-City Composite		65.77		66	.01	63	.54	53.73
LAMBS - Westmi				1	00 120 11 0	0.00.100.00	GI 27.1	50.00.74.00
		08.00-116.00 88.00- 98.00		oa		9.00-109.00 8.00- 73.00		I 59.00-74.00
		88.00- 98.00 04.00-120.00			30- 00 lbs - 0	8.00- /3.00		
TERMINAL MAR			1	DI	RECT MARKET			
Base Price Range		rcass Basis	Sows (1-3)	1	# 1&2		220-265 lbs	36.00-38.25
a.m.		2 185 lb Hog		\dashv			280-325 lbs	35.00-36.00
Eastern Cornbelt		1.00-47.75 1.00-47.97	22.00-32.50 22.00-30.50	N.A	illsboro, DE Mar	rot Home (\$/cwt) - \$33.	00
owa, Minn	4.	.00-47.97	22.00-30.30	IVI	ilisboro, DE Mari	ket Hogs - (5/CWI) - \$33.	00
FEEDER PIGS - ((\$/cwt) -							
Gumboro, DE -					New Holland, PA			
	end: None					slaughter		Effective Immediate
	00-205.00	50-59 lbs						No feeders will b
	00-145.00	60-69 lbs			reported	untı	lturth	er-notic
40-49 lbs 30.	00-135.00	70-79 lbs 80-89 lbs	40.00 - 48.00 25.00- 56.00					
CATTLE-LIVE F	TITLIDES C				HOGS-LEAN FU	THDES C	niaga Maraan	tilo Evokango
(\$/cwt) - Dec 17, 2		ilicago Merc	cantile Exchang	ge	(\$/cwt) - Dec 17, 2		ncago Mercan	the Exchange
Dec	92.67	Apr	82.75		Fb04	52.32	Jun	60.40
Ja04	91.97	Jun	75.20		Apr	54.72	Jul	58.25
Feb	89.55	Aug	74.32		May	57.75	Aug	56.47
STOCKER-FEEL			<u>.</u>					
Winchester, VA - Steers	Dec 16, 200 300- 400		9.00-115.00		Vestminster, MD - teers	Dec 16, 20	200- 450 lbs	89.00- 96.00
Steers	600- 700		8.50- 92.00				500- 700 lbs	81.00- 92.00
TT 10	700- 800		4.00- 88.00	H	eifers		200- 450 lbs	70.00- 79.00
Heifers	300- 400 400- 500		3.00-105.00 8.00- 94.50				450- 700 lbs 700- 800 lbs	75.00- 85.00 70.00- 75.00
	500- 600		0.00- 88.00	В	ulls returning to f	farm	700- 800 108	70.00- 73.00
	600- 700		0.00- 84.50		#1		90- 120 lbs	145.00-170.00
				Y	ounger Bulls eifers #2		70- 88 lbs	85.00-110.00 125.00-185.00
				11	eners #2		70- 88 108	123.00-183.00
Lancaster, New H	olland & Vi	ntage - Wee	k Ending - Dec	18,	2003			
Bull, Holstein	90-130	lbs 4:	5.00- 55.00		Plainer			
Heifers, Hols	90-105	lbs 400	0.00-480.00		Plainer		90- 110 lbs	210.00-360.00
SLAUGHTER CA								
Westminister, MI	Dec 16,	2003			F 111 '6			
Fed Steers	1200	1500 11- ~	07.00.100.0	00	Fed Heifer		00 1450 11-	00 00 104 00
H-Ch-Pr 2-4 Ch 2-3		1500 lbs 1300 lbs	97.00-100.0 90.00- 93.5		H-Ch-Pr H-Ch 2-4		00-1450 lbs 25-1375 lbs	99.00-104.00 90.00- 99.00
			82.00- 89.0	00	L-Ch	10	_5 15/5 105	84.00- 89.00
	1400-	1600 lbs	83.00- 86.2		Calves	_	75 275 IL -	97.00 06.00
H-Ch Hols Pr			75.00- 78.0	JU	H-Ch Good	. 2	25- 325 lbs 80- 120 lbs	87.00- 96.00 65.00- 72.00
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3				20	3004		60- 80 lbs	50.00- 72.00
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers			50.00- 55.0					
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers Few			57.00- 60.0	00				
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers Few Boners			57.00- 60.0 48.00- 53.0	00 00				
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers Few Boners Lean			57.00- 60.0 48.00- 53.0 41.00- 47.0	00 00 00				
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers Few Boners Lean Thin & Light	olland & Vi	ntage - Weel	57.00- 60.0 48.00- 53.0 41.00- 47.0 41.00-DOW	00 00 00 00 VN	2003			
Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers Few Boners Lean Thin & Light Lancaster, New H Steers, Choice, 2-3		118:	57.00- 60.0 48.00- 53.0 41.00- 47.0 41.00-DOW k Ending - Dec 5-1490 lbs	00 00 00 VN 20, 2	5-100.00	\$3.50-\$4.00) lower	
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers Few Boners Lean Thin & Light Lancaster, New H Steers, Choice, 2-3 Heifers, Choice 3-5	5	118:	57.00- 60.0 48.00- 53.0 41.00- 47.0 41.00-DOW k Ending - Dec 5-1490 lbs 5-1405 lbs	00 00 00 VN 20, 2 95.8 92.0	35-100.00 00- 95.25	Steady) lower	
H-Ch Hols Pr Ch 2-3 Cows Breakers Few Boners Lean Thin & Light Lancaster, New H Steers, Choice, 2-3	5 -80 pct lean	118: 108: 1050	57.00- 60.0 48.00- 53.0 41.00- 47.0 41.00-DOW k Ending - Dec 5-1490 lbs 5-1405 lbs	00 00 00 VN 20, 2 95.8 92.0 51.0	5-100.00		ıdy	

For more information about this report, call 410-841-5740 or write:

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